



2006 | ANNUAL REPORT

HEART's mission is to foster compassion and respect for all living beings and the environment by educating youth and teachers in humane education. Our goal is the infusion of humane education into all educational settings.

"The highest realms of thought are impossible to reach without first attaining an understanding of compassion."

SOCRATES



Letter from Management

We are very pleased to report that 2006 was a most eventful year for HEART. One of the highlights of HEART's accomplishments was the successful launch of its unique initiative, the Humane Living Program, in NYC area public schools. This program is a multi-lesson integrated humane and character education curriculum that promotes compassionate living. Our lessons were enthusiastically received by both students and school leaders and we share some of their experiences with you in this report.

The dearth of existing empirical data documenting the effectiveness of humane education led us to conduct a systematic 18-month assessment beginning in January 2006 to evaluate the Humane Living Program's impact on students. We expect our completed assessment study to strengthen the field of humane education by demonstrating its beneficial effects on children's attitudes and behavior.

Another important focus of our work has revolved around raising awareness among legislators about humane education and the need to enforce the forgotten humane education mandate in New York State. HEART was instrumental in getting the New York City Council to introduce a resolution to increase compliance with the state humane education statute. With 29 co-sponsors, including the Chair of the Education Committee, this resolution now has the support of the majority of the City Council.

This past year we also started making efforts to expand our reach by sponsoring teacher training workshops and developing our websites to provide easily accessible humane education resources for both students and educators.

Finally, in 2006, we concentrated on building a diverse funding base. Foundations, corporations, individuals, and government are all part of our fundraising strategy. In addition, special fundraising events such as our successful Charity Buzz online auction held in November will continue to be pursued. These combined efforts generated \$196,000 in revenues, which was in line with our expectations, and enabled us to fund programs and get off to a solid start in 2007.

We are a young organization with big aspirations. The opportunities for humane education to reach youth are open ended, both regionally as well as in other geographic areas. HEART intends to take advantage of these opportunities and employ sound financial management as well as best business practices as we fulfill our mission.

Sincerely,



Brad Goldberg
Chair



Meena Alagappan, Esq.
Executive Director





About HEART

HEART was created to cultivate empathy and compassion in youth toward all living beings and the natural environment. The organization works to build generations of socially conscious, caring citizens committed to making the world a better place. HEART sees humane education as encompassing human rights issues, animal welfare and environmental ethics. Character education is an integral component of humane education that teaches core values, such as respect, responsibility, compassion and empathy.

The benefits of teaching humane education include:

- Creating better students, compassionate citizens and contributors to the greater community
- Promoting critical thinking skills and empowering students to make well-informed decisions
- Cultivating empathy for animals and, as a result, decreasing animal abuse in our society
- Reducing and preventing violence in school and at home
- Motivating students to strive for a sustainable society while protecting the environment

As a full-service provider of humane education, HEART offers:

- Direct services to children and educators through specially designed in-classroom instructional programs and teacher training workshops
- Online resources for teachers and students through HEART's user-friendly websites (www.teachhumane.org, www.kidsforheart.org, www.teensforheart.org)
- Consulting services to teachers and administrators on the implementation of humane education into school curricula
- Advocacy to raise awareness about humane education in governmental and educational sectors and increase compliance with existing humane and character education laws in New York State

Implementation of the Humane Living Program

The best way to foster generations of socially conscious individuals is to instill a humane ethic in children through education. With that purpose in mind, HEART developed its Humane Living Program, which is a unique multi-lesson, age-appropriate curriculum on humane and character education. The program teaches students respect, responsibility and empathy toward all living creatures and the environment and helps youth develop critical thinking and decision-making skills based on compassion, tolerance and integrity.

HEART's Humane Educator conducts the program in ten forty-minute sessions using creative and engaging activities, including lively debates, group discussions, story-telling, films and semester-long civic action projects. These activities captivate the students to learn about the content in each lesson, apply it to their other academic subjects, as well as incorporate the lessons learned into their daily lives.

"Thank you for teaching my class about how to be humanitarian... You made us learn about sweatshops, recycling, global warming and every other thing that the Earth has and might be dangerous to society... I thank you for giving us a vision on how to be Humane...I want the world to be how it was a long time back...That's my life's undertaking."

-Yash, Elementary School Student

"HEART's lessons address important human rights, animal welfare and environmental protection issues and have been received very well by both our students and teachers. Their work has opened the door to continued discussion and valuable follow-up work including applied learning applications. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with HEART and recommend that their programs be more widely implemented in NYC public schools. The organization's commitment to compassion and education is clear."

-Arlene Rattien, Elementary School Administrator

Accomplishments of the Program

Successful launch of services

The Humane Living Program was implemented in five New York City elementary and middle schools.

Initiation of summer programming

The Humane Living Program served children in grades three and four at Mamaroneck Avenue Elementary School's summer camp and children ages nine and older at the Museum of the Hudson Highlands in Cornwall, NY as part of their summer nature explorers program.

Positive impact on students

Six hundred students participated in the Humane Living Program. Student evaluations have been extremely positive and are a major factor in determining program effectiveness and youth engagement.

Educators recommend our program

Many teachers and administrators have been enthusiastic about the Humane Living Program.

Assessment Phase of the Program

Empirical data validating the importance of humane education and its benefits for students is lacking in the field of humane education. HEART is devoting the Humane Living Program's first 18 months to a specially designed assessment study to systematically evaluate its effectiveness. This assessment project can help prove the merits of humane education and support the Humane Living Program's expansion throughout New York City and New York State.

The initial evaluation results from the Humane Living Program in the first half of 2006 were very promising. There were sufficient positive results to indicate that the program actually affected students' knowledge, concerns, and interest in taking action regarding humane issues. The comparison of pre- and post-test interventions demonstrated a majority of statistically significant positive results including: increased knowledge of the condition of child factory workers, the needs of wild animals, habitat destruction, air pollution, the greenhouse effect, and causes of bullying; increased concern for animals and the environment; and increased interest in joining a group to help animals or the environment and urging friends to do the same.

By the end of 2007, HEART expects to submit for publication a detailed analysis of the results of our 18-month study documenting the effectiveness of humane education.

Other Activities And Accomplishments

Sponsored teacher training workshop

In November, HEART sponsored the International Institute for Humane Education's 2-day Sowing Seeds training workshop, which was designed to teach educators and other interested individuals how to offer empowering, effective, and transformative humane education programs.

Designed Humane Education online resources

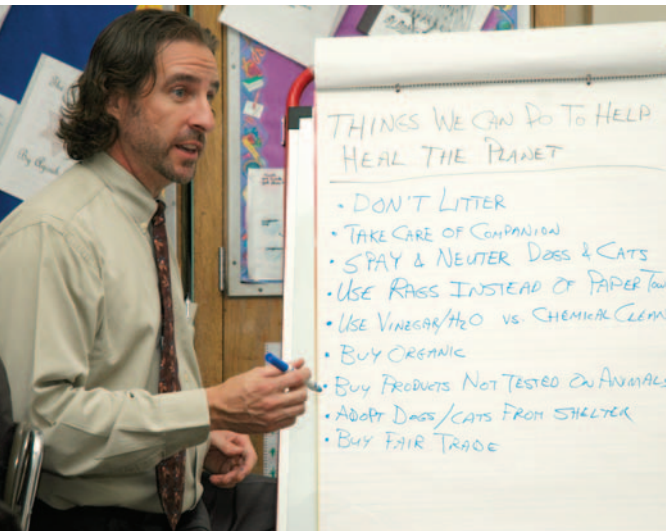
HEART expanded and enhanced its website (www.teachhumane.org) to provide information on humane education for youth and educators. Separate sections (Teacher Resources, Just for Teens and Just for Kids) were created to contain age-appropriate material to best serve HEART's online users. This information can be used for many purposes, such as extension activities to complement the Humane Living Program or supporting material for teacher or student-organized school projects.

Consulted with leaders on humane education issues

HEART offered expert guidance to numerous educators, administrators and concerned citizens primarily in New York, but also in other states, on a variety of humane education issues. HEART frequently refers teachers to specific resources to complement or develop lessons, provides guidance on how to implement humane education material into school curricula, and offers advice on how to design humane education program evaluation tools.

Advocated for mandated humane education in schools

HEART seeks to secure support from city government to enforce the NYS humane education law, which requires instruction in the humane treatment and protection of animals in all publicly funded elementary schools. Significant progress was made to achieve this goal. The Manhattan Delegation and NYC Council Members Annabel Palma and Maria del Carmen Arroyo awarded grants to implement HEART's Humane Living Program. In September, NYC Council Member Tony Avella introduced a resolution that calls on the NYC Department of Education to help increase compliance with the humane education statute by issuing a memorandum to all city public schools notifying them of the mandate and instructing all elementary school principals to direct their teachers to act in accordance with this requirement. This resolution now has the support of the majority of Council Members and awaits a hearing in the City Council Education Committee.



A Look Ahead

Program expansion, increased services and a larger population of youth and educators served are key objectives in HEART's organizational plan for 2007.

HEART plans to expand the Humane Living Program after the completion of its assessment phase in June 2007 to serve thousands of students a year, not just hundreds. HEART will expand the program offering to accommodate children of all grades, ages, and academic schedules. The Humane Living Program will be offered in abbreviated, subject-specific lessons introduced in other educational and recreational venues, such as after school programs, and accessible as a web-based program to reach larger numbers of educators and students throughout the nation.

In order to reach a wider audience and impact masses of students, HEART will increase its teacher trainings through classroom presentations

and workshops. Educators will be introduced to humane and character education and provided the tools to implement this instruction in daily classroom lessons. HEART will also partner with agencies that share similar missions and sponsor their humane education presentations in the New York City area.

HEART will continue to work for passage of the humane education resolution in the NYC Council. This resolution will be instrumental in reaching a large number of youth and teachers since it requires elementary schools throughout the city to comply with the state mandate and specifically identifies HEART as an organization that can help schools meet the statutory requirement.

Year Ended December 31, 2006

Public Support and Revenue

Contributions	\$178,018
Fundraising Event & Other	\$17,755
Total Public Support and Revenue	\$195,773

Expenses

Program Services	\$123,921
Management and General	\$9,033
Fundraising	\$19,796
Total Expenses	\$152,750

Excess of Public Support and Revenue over Expenses	\$43,023
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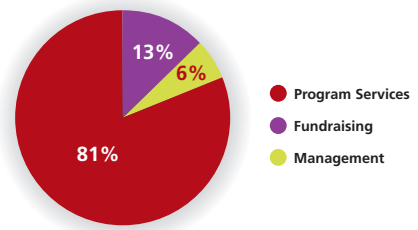
Net Assets

Beginning of year	\$20,422
End of year	\$63,445

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Beginning of year	\$13,582
End of year	\$32,254

Expense Allocation by Function



2006 Contributions

HEART's commitment to expanding the field of humane and character education to reach children throughout the New York City area could not have been possible without generous contributions from individuals, foundations and corporations. Thank you for your sincere belief in our work to foster generations of more compassionate and humane individuals dedicated to improving our world.

HEART Board

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HEART operates as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation dedicated to fostering a more humane world through education.

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